

ABSTRACT

An object resembling the cover of a hardbound book comprises two panels connected by a spine. The outside hinge configuration of the invention prevents the spine from collapsing, even if there are no contents between the two panels. The invention lends itself to a wide variety of book-like products (e.g., a book-like holder for a compact disc and accompanying booklet) where the contents are of changing width (thickness) or where the spine must be of a specific width, irrespective of the width of the contents, and further allows for a binding for a book to be fabricated prior to assembly or insertion of its pages. A hinged cover consistent with the invention comprises a spine and two rigid panels, each panel coupled to the spine and disposed rotatably with respect to the spine, and the spine serves as a hinge stop for each rigid panel, such that each panel, when rotated toward the other panel, is constrained from rotating substantially beyond 90 degrees with respect to the spine. A method of constructing a cover consistent with the invention comprises disposing a rigid front, rear, and spine panel core onto a sheet of pliable material, such that the width of the space between the spine panel core and the other panel cores is based on at least the sum of the thickness of the spine panel core and twice the thickness of the sheet of pliable material.